

REACTIONS TO YOUR READING

Post-its are a way of sharing the "conversation" you can have with the book you're reading. Here are some ideas to think about (and include for your Post-it notes) while you're reading.

1. **Connections / Comparisons**

- a. Does something in the book remind you of something in your life (for example: an event or a character) or in another book you've read? Describe/Explain what you thought of while reading.

2. **"Wondering questions"** - share things you wonder about (avoid predictions)

- I am wondering why... (...Joe treats his friend Sally so badly)
- I'm not sure why...
- Why do you suppose... (...Martin decided to tell his dad about the incident?)

3. What do you **like / dislike** about how the author wrote the book?

- a. Take a **"critical stance"** on the book. For example, do you like the descriptions? Do you like the dialogue? Do you find the book confusing?
- b. Pretend you're peer-editing a piece in L.A. class; what comments would you make about the writing? Be specific / Have an example.

4. Are the **characters** "coming alive" for you? Do they seem real? Do you like them? Why/Why not? HOW is the author bringing the characters to life (through their actions? Words? Thoughts?)

5. What is the **conflict** in the story? Do you like how it is presented by the author? Do you think the characters are dealing with the conflict well? Why/Why not?

6. What do you think the **author's theme/message** is - what is the author trying to "teach" the reader (e.g., stick to your dreams, don't judge others)? Be sure to think of events from the book that support what you think the theme/message is.

7. What **"BIG questions"** does the book bring up? A BIG question is one that is related to your book's theme, but can be applied to life generally. For example, a big question might be "Is war ever good?" But a BIG question would NOT be "Is war helpful for Perry?" (because that question only relates to a book, not to life generally.)

8. What do you notice about a **culture** in your book?

- a. Consider the attitudes, beliefs or behaviors of a group of people in your book. **Remember that culture does not have to be foreign; it could be the culture of a high-school group or of a town.

Try to choose three different types of comments each week. ASK for help if you need it.

Stickies due: _____